

REMARKS/ARGUMENTS

A. General:

1. Claim 13 has been amended to recite the first, second, and third steps thereof as those steps read as originally filed and to incorporate the language from claim 24 which language the Examiner has indicated is directed to allowable subject matter.

2. Claims 1 - 12, 17 - 19, and 22 - 24 have been canceled in this amendment; claims 14-16 were previously canceled.

3. Claims 13, 20 and 21 remain under examination.

B. §112 Rejections:

The Examiner has rejected claims 13 and 19 - 24 under 35 USC 112, second paragraph as being indefinite. Specifically, the Examiner states that the term "high concentration" in claim 13 and "high particle counts" in claim 22 render the claims indefinite.

Applicants have deleted the term "high concentration" from claim 13 and have deleted claim 22 thereby obviating this rejection.

C. §103 Rejection:

1. The Examiner has rejected claims 13, 18, 19, and 23, under 35 USC §103(a) as being unpatentable over Megerle (US Patent Application Publication 2004/0020264), Akers (US Patent No. 4,275,875), Yoon (US Patent Application Publication 2003/0136203), and Reid et al. (US Patent No. 4,718,268).

Claims 18, 19, and 23 have been canceled thereby obviating this rejection as to them.

As noted above, claim 13 has been amended to incorporate the language from claim 24 which the Examiner has indicated is directed to allowable subject matter thereby obviating this rejection as to claim 13.

2. The Examiner has rejected claims 20-22 under 35 USC 103(a) as being unpatentable over Megerle, Akers, Yoon, and Reid et al. as applied to claim 13 above, and further in view of Schwarz et al. (US Patent Application Publication 2003/0145664).

Applicants have canceled claim 22 thereby obviating this rejection as to it.

Claims 20 and 21 depend from claim 13 and, therefore, under the same rationale discussed above, are also allowable thereby obviating this rejection as to them.

D. Conclusion:

Applicants respectfully request that a timely Notice of Allowance be issued in this case for claims 13, 20 and 21.

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